

## Preface

This e-book contains the Proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Congress of the International Winnicott Association (IWA), which is a non-profit international civil entity founded in 2013 in São Paulo, Brazil, headquartered at the Brazilian Society of Winnicottian Psychoanalysis in São Paulo.

The IWA's **social goal** is to promote research, training and publications on **Winnicott's psychoanalysis and other areas of his therapeutic activities, such as child psychiatry**, as well as international exchanges between therapists, researchers and teachers who are linked to universities, psychoanalytical groups, societies, centers, research or teaching foundations and other institutions, both scientific and clinical, and who develop **activities within Winnicott's theoretical framework of clinical practice**. The IWA also aims to promote and support activities relating to social work and the prevention of maturational disorders and to the development, institutionalisation and diffusion of Winnicottian psychoanalysis in general.

In order to fulfill this goal, the IWA organises and sponsors teaching activities and **research across the entire spectrum of Winnicott's therapeutic modalities, supporting training courses and professional meetings, such as colloquia, national and international congresses**. It also publishes books and journals, collaborates with social organisations, both public and private, and with any other initiatives with the objective of developing, **promoting and disseminating Winnicott's theory and clinical practice**.

This is the institutional framework and the project within which the 1<sup>st</sup> IWA Congress was organised in 2015. Other Winnicott groups and institutions have been working in the same direction for some time. For example, the Brazilian Society of Winnicottian Psychoanalysis (SBPW) and now the Brazilian Institute of Winnicottian Psychoanalysis (IBPW), have been organising the Brazilian International Winnicott colloquia on an annual basis since 1995. Similar events have been held in other countries in Latin America and Europe. The 1<sup>st</sup> São Paulo IWA Congress nevertheless represented a new chapter in Winnicott studies, resulting from the cited project for

institutionalisation and dissemination across the world. The intended research was designed to be different from the frequent attempts to assimilate Winnicott with his predecessors or contemporaries, thereby denying his originality, or to reduce his contribution to a few concepts scattered throughout his papers. Some commentators went as far as to denounce the idiosyncratic nature of his thought, or even to decry the lack of theory in his writings. From the outset, however, more important than the promotion of a thorough inquiry into Winnicott's legacy, was the aim of promoting study of his contribution to the progress of psychoanalytic theory and treatment procedures, in an effort to explain the meaning of Winnicott's plea about the future of psychoanalytic problem-solving practices, written a few days before his death: "I am asking for a kind of revolution in what we [psychoanalytic therapists] are doing". This future-oriented appraisal of Winnicott was contemplated in the title itself of the 1st IWA Congress: "Winnicott and the future of psychoanalysis".

In preparing the edition of this e-book, I have been greatly assisted by Caroline Vasconcelos Ribeiro, my former doctoral student, who also did most of the work of managing editor. The Board of Directors of the IWA has decided that this collection of 15 articles will constitute the first volume of the series of IWA BOOKS, an initiative due to begin this year, together with the IWA's journal *Winnicott e-Prints*, in collaboration with the DWW editorial, publisher of the Brazilian Society of Winnicottian Psychoanalysis.

*Zeljko Loparic*

President of the IWA